

Message Text

SECRET

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12

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /026 W

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P R 141056Z DEC 74

FM AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 166

INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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S E C R E T COPENHAGEN 3520

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, XF, EC, DA

SUBJECT: EURO-ARAB DIALOGUE AND THE PLO

REF: BRUSSELS 9827

1. DURING A DISCUSSION DECEMBER 13 OF FOREIGN MINISTER GULDBERG'S FORTHCOMING VISIT TO ISRAEL, POLCOUNS TOOK THE OCCASION TO CONVEY THE CONTENTS OF REFTEL TO MFA'S AMBASSADOR THORNING-PETERSEN, WHO HAS RECENTLY BEEN CHARGED WITH RESPONSIBILITY FOR MIDDLE EASTERN AFFAIRS IN GENERAL AND THE EURO-ARAB DIALOGUE IN PARTICULAR. HE SAID HE UNDERSTOOD THE MESSAGE AND WOULD MAKE SURE IT WAS BROUGHT TO THE ATTENTION OF OTHERS CONCERNED IN THE DANISH GOVERNMENT. EMPHASIZING THAT HE WAS SPEAKING PERSONALLY, HE SAID HE WAS DISAPPOINTED TO LEARN THAT NEITHER THE US NOR ISRAEL HAS BEEN IN CONTACT WITH THE PLO, SINCE THAT ORGANIZATION "WAS NOT GOING TO GO AWAY."

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2. THORNING-PETERSEN SAID THAT DENMARK SEES THE EURO-ARAB DIALOGUE AS AN OPPORTUNITY FOR A SERIOUS FINANCIAL AND ECONOMIC DISCUSSION BETWEEN THE TWO PARTIES. IT WOULD APPEAR THAT THE PLO WOULD HAVE NOTHING TO CONTRIBUTE TO SUCH A DISCUSSION, HE SAID THAT SOME OF THE ARABS (PARTICULARLY THE ALGERIANS) SEEM TO WANT TO "POLITICIZE" THE DIALOGUE, A COURSE THE FRENCH AND ITALIANS APPEAR MORE WILLING TO ACCEPT THAN THE DANES. HE CONCLUDED BY SAYING THAT, AT THE MOMENT, THE EUROPEANS ARE STILL ATTEMPTING TO REACH AGREEMENT AMONG THEMSELVES ON A COMMON POSITION.
DUNNIGAN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, MINISTERIAL VISITS, LIBERATION FRONTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 14 DEC 1974
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: boyleja
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974COPENH03520
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740364-0167
From: COPENHAGEN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19741234/aaaabdac.tel
Line Count: 71
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: 74 BRUSSELS 9827
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: boyleja
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 09 APR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <09 APR 2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <25-Sep-2002 by boyleja>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: EURO-ARAB DIALOGUE AND THE PLO
TAGS: PFOR, XF, IS, DA, XG, PLO, EEC, (GULDBERG)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005